

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00656 110912Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 /091 W

-----079504 112049Z /64

R 110820Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4391

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L S O F I A 0 6 5 6

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XH, BU, CZ

SUBJECT: FOOTNOTE ON THE 1968 WARSAW PACT INTERVENTION IN
CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. EMBASSY HAS RECENTLY LEARNED, ACCORDING TO A BULGARIAN
SOLDIER PARTICIPANT IN THE WARSAW PACT MILITARY INTERVENTION
IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN AUGUST 1968, THAT BULGARIAN TROOPS
DESTINED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPERATION WERE SENT TO THE
SOVIET UNION APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH PRIOR TO THE INVASION.
THEY UNDERWENT TRAINING AND PREPARATION IN THE UKRAINE, ABOUT
80 KILOMETERS FROM L'VOV.

2. WHILE IT HAS LONG BEEN KNOWN THAT BULGARIAN TROOPS WERE
SENT VIA THE USSR, EMBASSY IS NOT AWARE IF IT HAS BEEN KNOWN
THAT BULGARIAN FORCES WERE SENT TO USSR THAT LONG BEFORE
INVASION. WHILE WE CANNOT CONFIRM THIS REPORT, WE ASSUME
INFORMATION MAY WELL BE CORRECT, SUBJECT TO IMPRECISION

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00656 110912Z

AFTER NEARLY TEN YEARS. IF TRUE, IT DOES NOT OF COURSE
MEAN THAT FINAL DECISION ON INVASION HAD BEEN REACHED AS
EARLY AS A FULL MONTH BEFORE THE OPERATION, BUT IT WOULD
SUGGEST AT LEAST CONTINGENCY PLANNING BASED ON SUFFICIENT-
LY HIGH PROBABILITY OF ACTION TO JUSTIFY SUCH TROOP
MOVEMENTS. WITH THAT IN MIND, WE SUMBIT THIS DATUM
FOR POSSIBLE HISTORICAL INTEREST TO ANALYSTS.

GARTHOFF

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY TRAINING, ALLEGATIONS, INVASIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SOFIA00656
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780156-0198
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780470/aaaachdy.tel
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4bad61b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3008112
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOOTNOTE ON THE 1968 WARSAW PACT INTERVENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA
TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, XH, BU, CZ, WARSAW PACT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4bad61b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014